eCYBERMISSION
ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE

ecybermission volunteer program

The U.S. Army has long recognized the importance of science, math and technology in ensuring the security of this nation. In response to national statistics showing a decline in youth interest in scientific and engineering disciplines, the Army is sponsoring eCYBERMISSION—a free, web-based science, math and technology competition for students in grades 6 through 9.

An essential component to eCYBERMISSION's success is a committed and diverse pool of volunteers that diligently works to promote the competition, serve as on-line coaches and evaluate team submissions. The four types of eCYBERMISSION volunteers include:

- **Ambassadors**—Ambassadors are civilian and military volunteers with active clearances and supervisor approval that represent the "Face of the U.S. Army"

and promote the competition throughout the country and in Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools.

- **Installation Points of Contact (POC)**—Installation POCs are civilian and military volunteers with active clearances and supervisor approval who communicate with contacts at Army installations in order to engage and distribute materials to Ambassadors.

- **CyberGuides**—CyberGuides are civilian and military volunteers with active clearances and supervisor approval who provide on-line assistance to eCYBERMISSION teams. They answer questions and provide guidance through the use of discussion forums, chat rooms and instant messaging.

- **Virtual Judges**—Virtual Judges are volunteers who have varying backgrounds and areas of expertise, but also have an interest in promoting science, math and technology. They independently evaluate and score approximately 20 Mission Folders on-line.

This document provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities associated with being an eCYBERMISSION volunteer. Volunteers can serve in more than one role. However, in order to minimize conflict of interest in Judging, Virtual Judge volunteers cannot also serve as Ambassadors, Installation POCs or CyberGuides.

Why Become an eCYBERMISSION Volunteer?

- Increase student interest in science, math and technology

- Help students make a difference in their community

- Mentor teams through open ended challenges

- Utilize your expertise to help recognize student achievement

- Help represent a more personal "face" of the U.S. Army

www.ecybermission.com

AMBASSADORS AND INSTALLATION POCS

What Is an Ambassador's Role?

eCYBERMISSION Ambassadors:

- Visit local schools to generate enthusiasm for the competition among administrators, teachers and students

- Build relationships with contacts within school districts

- Promote eCYBERMISSION through e-mails and phone calls and coordinate with contacts to post the web site link on related web sites

- Promote eCYBERMISSION at key conferences and meetings, such as the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and Boy and Girl Scout meetings

- Present regional awards to students and participate in awards ceremonies (upon request)

- Gather and report feedback received from schools, administrators, teachers and students

- Encourage other individuals to be eCYBERMISSION volunteers

What Is the Time Commitment for an Ambassador?

Ambassadors perform their duties year-round with special attention to key competition dates, such as:

- Before and during team registration (September 1, 2005–December 12, 2005): 15-20 hours per month including three school visits per month

- After team registration (December 13, 2005–July 2006): two community outreach visits per month

Most Ambassador activities take place during the August–November months when school visits are key to encouraging registration in the competition.

Ambassadors should schedule and conduct their school and community outreach contacts and visits during the workday.

What Resources Are Available to Ambassadors?

After an Ambassador registers on the eCYBERMISSION web site and receives clearance and supervisor approval, resources will be provided, including:

- On-line Ambassador Guide

- Welcome Kit, including:

  — Contact protocols for approaching schools

  — Tips for presenting in various venues

  — Checklists

  — Outreach materials (e.g., posters, brochures, padfolios and business cards)

  — Briefing materials (e.g., presentations and a promotional video)

- eCYBERMISSION Polo Shirt (to be worn at school visits)

- eCYBERMISSION promotional materials

- On-line Event Log for each contact or visit

- Management and administrative assistance from the Volunteer Program Coordinator

"Being an eCYBERMISSION Ambassador has meant the world to me. I really want to give something back to the community and help shape the future of kids from all over the world."

– Ambassador MAJ Eric Arrington

What Is an Installation POC's Role?

eCYBERMISSION Installation POCs:

- Monitor Ambassadors associated with their Installation by coordinating and providing support as appropriate

- Regularly distribute resources like the Welcome Kit and promotional materials to Ambassadors for school or district contacts and visits

- Coordinate outreach activities with the Volunteer Program Coordinator

- Serve as a liaison between the Ambassadors in the field and the Volunteer Program Coordinator

- Encourage other individuals to be eCYBERMISSION volunteers

What Is the Time Commitment for an Installation POC?

Each Installation POC is expected to commit 15 to 20 hours per month to support eCYBERMISSION activities and Ambassadors. Installation POCs perform their duties year-round with special attention to key competition dates, such as:

- During team registration (September 1, 2005– December 12, 2005): 15-20 hours per month

- After team registration (December 13, 2005–July 2006): five hours per month

> **"I tell each superintendent, principal and teacher that all I am doing is sharing a great opportunity and if the students just make an extra effort they can achieve great things, both financially and for the community."**
>
> **– Ambassador MAJ Timothy J. Mertsock**

What Resources Are Available to Installation POCs?

After the Installation POC registers on the eCYBERMISSION web site and receives clearance and supervisor approval, resources will be provided, including:

- On-line Installation POC Guide

- Welcome Kit with items described above

- eCYBERMISSION Polo Shirt (to be worn at school visits)

- eCYBERMISSION promotional materials

- On-line Event Log for each contact or visit

- Management and administrative assistance from the Volunteer Program Coordinator

CYBERGUIDES

What Is the Role of a CyberGuide?

eCYBERMISSION CyberGuides:

- Serve from September 1, 2005, to February 21, 2006, when the teams submit their Mission Folders

- Work two 2-hour on-line shifts per week during a weekday, evening or deadline weekend

- Provide prompt project assistance and encouragement to teams

- Interact with students through Instant Messaging conversations and moderate scheduled on-line chat sessions on specific competition topics

- Reply to Discussion Forum questions posted by teams

What Is the Time Commitment for a CyberGuide?

Each CyberGuide is asked to work two 2-hour shifts each week from September 1, 2005 to February 21, 2006. In most cases, CyberGuides perform their duties outside normal work hours. CyberGuides will work weekday shifts to interact with teams who are working on their Mission Folders at school, after school and in the evening. CyberGuides will be staffed Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. EST, and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST. Weekends preceding the registration and Mission Folder deadlines may require additional on-line shifts.

What Resources Are Available to CyberGuides?

After a CyberGuide registers on the eCYBERMISSION web site and receives clearance and supervisor approval, resources will be provided, including:

- On-line CyberGuide Guide

- eCYBERMISSION T-Shirt

- Management and administrative assistance from the Volunteer Program Coordinator

> **"It is a profoundly, rewarding experience to contribute to the education and enlightenment of future generations of scientists and engineers. The sentiment brings a sense of gratification that is beyond what mere words can express."**
>
> **– CyberGuide Ms. Gayla T. McMichael**

What Is the Role of an eCYBERMISSION Virtual Judge?

Virtual Judges are volunteers who can have varying backgrounds and areas of expertise, but also have an interest in promoting science, math and technology. They are solicited nationwide, and can be from government, industry or academic and educational organizations. Retirees are invited to volunteer as Virtual Judges. Virtual Judges must know how to use a computer, have Internet access and be willing to commit the time to conduct thorough and objective evaluations.

What Is the Time Commitment for a Virtual Judge?

The on-line regional judging period will be February 23 through March 15, 2006. Each Mission Folder requires approximately one hour to review. It will take each Virtual Judge an estimated 20–25 hours to review all on-line assignments during the judging period. Virtual Judges will have the convenience of reviewing their assigned Mission Folders from anywhere they have an Internet connection.

How Does a Virtual Judge Evaluate Mission Folders?

eCYBERMISSION Virtual Judges will independently evaluate and score approximately 20 Mission Folders on-line. A team's on-line submission will be randomly assigned to multiple judges to ensure that each Mission Folder is reviewed and scored objectively against the following criteria:

- ☐ Application of Science, Math and Technology (40%)
- ☐ Innovation, Originality and Creativity (20%)
- ☐ Benefit to the Community (20%)
- ☐ Team Collaboration and Communication (20%)

What Resources Are Available to Virtual Judges?

After a Virtual Judge registers on the eCYBERMISSION web site, resources will be provided, including:

- ☐ On-line Virtual Judge Guide
- ☐ On-line Scored Example Mission Folders
- ☐ On-line Judging Scorecard
- ☐ Management and administrative assistance from the Volunteer Program Coordinator

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How Can I Find Out More About eCYBERMISSION and Becoming an eCYBERMISSION Volunteer?

For additional information on the eCYBERMISSION Volunteer Program, please contact the Volunteer Program Coordinator at: volunteerprogram@ecybermission.com. We hope you will become a volunteer and help make the 2005–2006 eCYBERMISSION competition a success!

For additional information on eCYBERMISSION, please visit www.ecybermission.com or contact: missioncontrol@ecybermission.com.

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